ENTERTAINMENT/A2-1 ■ SPORTS/A36 ■ BUSINESS/B1 ■ LIFESTYLE/D3



How Nikki mends her broken heart

Nowitzki shines in clutch, lifts Mavs to 2-1 lead over Spurs

Overseas workers' remittances hit 8-year high

Eastern Samar: Beyond typhoons, NPA guerrillas



Young pianist impresses Licad in Ilocos concert

By Cristina Arzadon

PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, May 15, 2006 ★★ 5 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 156 P18

Skin whiteners may be dangerous to your beauty



93rd leftist leader killed

2 chambers of Congress seen to clash on priorities

By Michael Lim Ubac and TJ Burgonio

IT WILL BE "TOTAL WAR" between the legislative and executive branches when Congress resumes session today, says Rep. Pablo Garcia.

Congress itself is of two minds on priorities in the nine remaining days before it adjourns sine die.

Charter change—endorsed by 180 members—is on top of the agenda of the House of Representatives' leadership.

For the Senate, the main concern is passing the long-delayed P1.053-trillion national budget for this year. "This is our top priority and we have no excuse not to pass it," said Sen. Joker Arroyo.

The budget was approved by the House only on April 4, on the eve of the long Lenten recess—five months late. In the past, the House usually transmitted the approved budget by November in time for its passage before the yearend.

Under the proposed budget, the Department of Education was allotted the lion's share of P119.1 billion, followed by the Department of Public Works and Highways, P62.3 billion; Department of National Defense, P46.6 billion; Department of Agriculture, P33.4 billion; Department of Transportation and Communications, P14.3 billion; and the Department of Health, P10.4 billion.

2 CHAMBERS/A11



GUARDED MOMENTS

Children wait next to a soldier before entering a mobile clinic run jointly by the US military and the Armed Forces of the Philippines in Barangay Luuk on Jolo island. More than 1,000 people gathered at a school in Luuk to receive free medical services, including minor operations and dental surgery.

Military crackdown or CPP purge?

By Tonette Orejas

PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Just a day after Malacañang ordered a thorough inquiry into the unabated killing of militants, assassins posing as customers shot dead a Bayan Muna leader after ordering beers in a videoke bar.

The murder of Bayan Muna coordinator Manuel Nardo on Saturday night in this Pampanga city brought to at least 123 the number of leftist activists killed since President Macapagal-Arroyo took office in 2001, according to an activists' count. Of that figure, 93 were Bayan Muna members.

Nardo was also the fourth militant to die by an assassin's hand in five days.

Militant groups denounced the latest violence as part of an alleged military "cleansing" of leftist elements. The military claimed the killings were a sequel to the Communist Party of the Philippines' purge of its ranks in the 1980s.

"Bayan Muna leaders are being killed like chickens ... They are dropping dead like flies," Bayan Muna secretary general Robert de Castro said in a phone interview.

93RD LEFTIST/A22

'Caloy' casualty in Bicol feared big waves

By Ephraim Aguilar and Michael Jaucian

PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—ONE OF THE 27 people who died when the motorboat Mae-Ann 5 sank at the height of storm "Caloy" didn't want to be at sea because he was afraid of big waves.

CALOY/A9

Con-ass bid could mean Senate days numbered

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

USUALLY A PROVOCATIVE PERSON, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago last week startled friends and foes alike with a statement that sounded like she was starting the countdown for the demise of the Philippine Senate by July next year.

CON-ASS/A10

10 YEARS OF CHAOS IN CHINA

Tragedy of Cultural Revolution recalled



CHINESE Red Guards and students, waving copies of Mao Zedong's "Little Red Book," parade in Beijing at the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in this photo taken 40 years ago.

BEIJING—FORTY YEARS AGO ON TUESDAY, Chairman Mao Zedong unleashed China's infamous Cultural Revolution—a decade of terror and violence that continues to haunt both the country and its people.

The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, now officially referred to as "10 years of catastrophe," was to unravel in a disaster that claimed millions of lives and pushed China to the brink of economic and social collapse.

The movement officially began on May 16, 1966, with a directive from Chinese Communist Party (CCP) chief Mao charging that "representatives of the bourgeoisie" had infiltrated all levels of the party and intended to establish a "dictatorship."

TRAGEDY/A22



A FAMILY photo in Lushan City's Mao village in Henan, where Mao is still highly revered.

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

'Da Vinci Code' will strengthen faith, says expert

Everest teams begin final push for top of the world

By Alcuin Papa

AND THEY'RE OFF.

Two teams that are attempting to climb Mt. Everest, the highest mountain in the world at 29,035 feet, started over the weekend their historic trek from Everest Base Camp.

Asean economic execs begin 3-day meet

Pacific planholders decry arrest threat

By Alcuin Papa

'Free Ka Bel on bail'

I have no inside info on 'jueteng' – Chavit

Gas, LPG prices up









An Urgent Appeal to our People:
THIS IS OUR LAST CALL

Over the past weeks, The Consumer & Oil Price Watch (COPW) has continuously urged the Filipino people to join in the discussions and debates regarding Charter Change.

The support and positive response to our call for public information and participation has been overwhelming with over 3,000 responses through text messages, phone calls, faxes, and emails.

THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN.

90% are AGAINST the Transitory Provisions and WANT Elections in May 2007 under the Current Presidential or the Proposed Parliamentary System.

A staggering 90% of all respondents rejected the four (4) previously published Transitory Provisions of the Draft Constitution that would **CANCEL** the elections for senators, congressmen, and local elections scheduled in **May 2007** and would **EXTEND** the terms of office of these elected officials.

People WANT ELECTIONS in May 2007.
They don't want officials taking office without benefit of election and serving until 2010.

People's Initiative is not the right way to amend the Constitution.
The way proponents of Cha-cha are undertaking People's Initiative is so simplistic, while the issues concerning Cha-cha is much more complex.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court has yet to decide on the legality of People's Initiative. COPW appeals to the Supreme Court to finally end the confusion brought about by People's Initiative and once and for all decide on its legality.

COPW will ask the **COMELEC** if they have begun counting and comparing the signature campaign being done by the proponents of People's Initiative. COPW will also be examining the forms they are asking people to sign, and if so this information be made **PUBLIC** at the Barangay Level within City and Province.

The COPW has always maintained that the only legal, viable and DEMOCRATIC way to amend the Constitution is through a Constitutional Convention (CON-CON).
Amendments to the Constitution must be studied and reviewed by delegates who will be elected by the people from various fields of specialization.

COPW recommends that the Con-Con to culminate in a National Referendum coinciding with the May 2007 elections.

If we are to elect delegates who will preside in the Constitutional Convention,
COPW again appeals that electoral Reforms must be in place NOW.
We desperately need a credible and independent COMELEC. Only when our people are convinced that elections are clean, honest and free from anomaly will they respect **ANY** results.

COPW reiterates that a shift from Presidential to a Parliamentary system will NOT be the solution to our problems.

**In order for our country to genuinely prosper,
Change must come from ALL our POLITICAL LEADERS.**

**We appeal to our leaders' sense of statesmanship and nationalism.
Set aside personal conflicts and put NATIONAL INTEREST over and above personal agenda.**

Our people deserve nothing less.

Even as Congress will again adjourn on June 10 and reconvene in July, we repeat our appeal to our countrymen that there is a ***greater need for vigilance***. Congress should hear the people's voice. And the people should make their voice heard.

**Let the true will of the People prevail.
Make our democracy work. For our future. For the people.**

MAKE YOUR VOICE BE HEARD.

A. A shift from the Presidential to Parliamentary is NOT the solution to our problems.
- ☐ **YES, I agree.**
- ☐ **NO, I do not agree.**

B. Change must come from ALL our Political Leaders.
- ☐ **YES, I agree.**
- ☐ **NO, I do not agree.**

C. Genuine election reforms must be in place NOW.
- ☐ **YES, I agree.**
- ☐ **NO, I do not agree.**

D. If there are changes needed in the Constitution, it should be amended through:
- ☐ **a signature campaign known as People's Initiative.**
- ☐ **a Constitutional Convention.**

**Send your answers to our Special Cha-Cha Information Hotline numbers.
Please include your name, address, age, barangay, city or province.**

**Call 812-6595 or 844-7256 • Fax to 818-8285
Text to 0917-8103363 • Email to rtc@cti.com.ph**

This ad will appear in major tabloids and provincial newspapers nationwide.

CONSUMER & OIL PRICE WATCH

RAUL T. CONCEPCION
Chairman

308 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines

₱70-M steel bar shipment seized

[illegible]








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VillMan
avant
cti
TCA
PC EXPRESS
pc corner
enigma
PC Options
STRINGS


ORANGE PEEL
Moisturizing
Super
ORANGE PEEL

Runway repair ahead of sked

'Caloy' casualty in Bicol feared big waves

Seeking cover

Upside down

Clinging to a rope

Aid from Malacañang

Hazardous billboards





Pinoy crewman killed

LONDON—A 49-year-old Filipino crew member of the luxury liner Queen Mary 2 died Friday following a fight with another Filipino crew member below decks, British police reported. [illegible]

Take home a little magic!

Add to your memories by selecting a few fun Disney souvenirs. Choose some far-out space age accessories at Space Traders, have your likeness artfully crafted



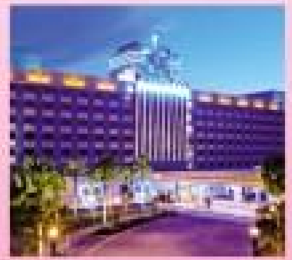
at the Silhouette Shop, or pick up a magical trinket from Merlin's Treasures. After shopping, capture your special day by having a fun photo taken by a professional photographer and then picking it up at Town Square Photo.



Live the magic day and night at our Disney hotels!

Make the most of your Hong Kong Disneyland holiday with a stay at one of our outstanding Disney hotels. At Disney's Hollywood Hotel, you can splash around in the piano-shaped pool or share a movie — and some popcorn — with some real Disney characters! Or choose the elegant Hong Kong Disneyland Hotel, where you can start your day with breakfast in the company of Mickey and his pals in the beautiful Enchanted Garden. Then, later, indulge yourself with a visit to the hotel's Victorian Spa.





Book now and enjoy "Extra Magic" — plus breakfast on us!

Visit Hong Kong Disneyland before September 30, 2006, and you'll enjoy:

1. One "Extra Magic" Feature

- A complimentary photo of you enjoying Space Mountain or The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh, or
- A FREE main course when you buy one at selected restaurants, or
- A FREE souvenir Disney-themed lunchbox

2. FREE Breakfast

All Guests who stay at either the Hong Kong Disneyland Hotel or Disney's Hollywood Hotel will enjoy a delicious complimentary breakfast!

So what are you waiting for? Contact your local travel agent and book your Hong Kong Disneyland holiday today!

For more information, visit:
www.hongkongdisneyland.com



TIP
Make your Mickey Mouse Ear Hat unique by having your name embroidered on it!







INQUIRER

OPINION



Saudi Arabia's reasons

EDITORIAL

Mansions in La Mesa for MWSS execs

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Obsessions

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

ID Systems: from AO 308 to EO 420

Sounding Board



Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

India and Iran: a case of double standard

World View



Richard N. Haass

Infant nation

The Long View



Manuel L. Quezon III

Into the breach

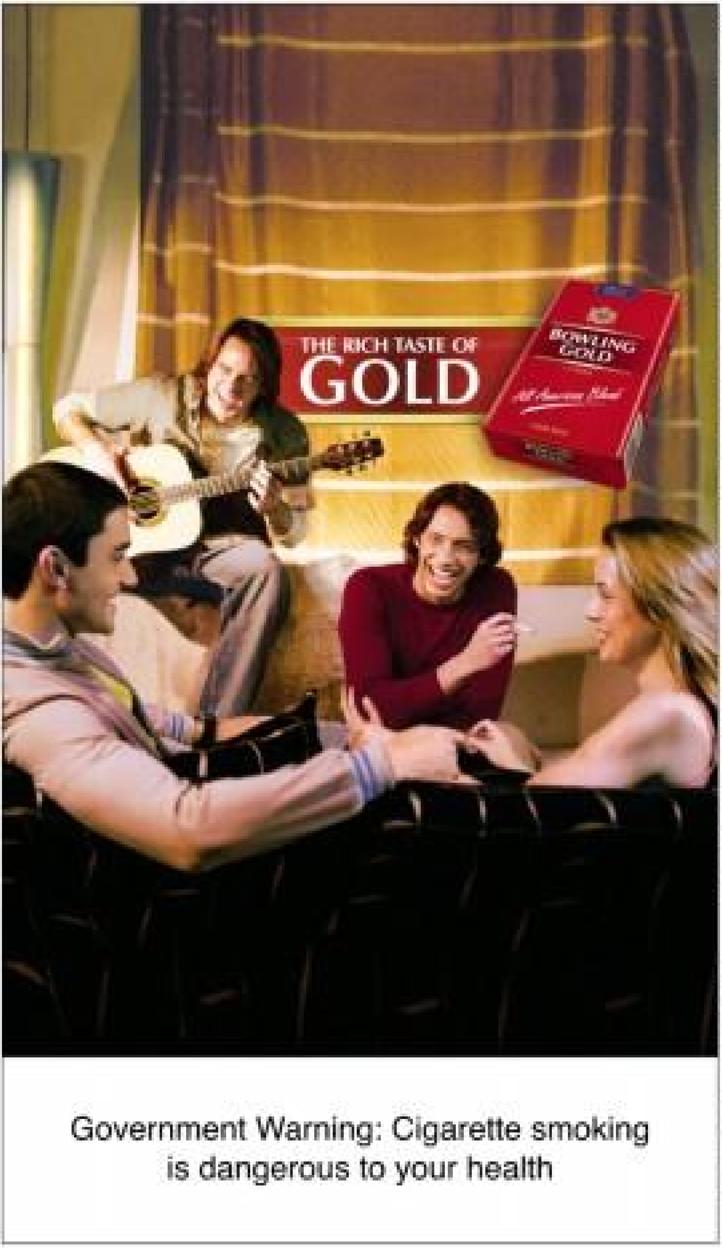
Commentary

Eugenia Duran Apostol

Good news from Supreme Court

LETTERS

What happens now to electoral reforms?



Clearing operations in Subic peaceful

Respect the office

Across the NATION

SUERTRES 5 8 4
6/23 16 17

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
3 5 25 45 47 49
P10,196,361.00

DENR Quezon head axed over logging

LUCENA CITY—THE CONTROVERSIAL CHIEF OF the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Quezon has been relieved from his post effective this week following a petition submitted to Malacañang by Church leaders, government officials and residents in the Reina (Real-Infanta-General Nakar) area of the province.

ROUNDUP

Motorists urged to use alarms



Funny ordinance



Medical mission

Poll lottery postponed



Napocor to transfer power barge to Iloilo



Realty firm offers to remodel Burnham Park



Pay-for-grade scam in Baguio uncovered



GROUNDED Flying school ground personnel clear a damaged single-propeller Cessna 150 trainer plane, after it crashed outside the Cebu airport while landing. The plane carried an unidentified female South Korean flight student and a Filipino instructor, who both suffered slight injuries in Saturday's accident.

BAGUIO CITY—A UNIVERSITY student helped the National Bureau of Investigation entrap an English instructor she accused of running a pay-for-grade scam in a city college.

But the student is now being sued by her classmates for allegedly being the accomplice of Chris Chachapoa Jr., 28, an instructor of the Baguio Central University.

The student is among the complainants against Chachapoa, but four other students claimed she collected P100,000 from them to facilitate their graduation from the BCU nursing school.

The four are asking City Prosecutor Brendalyn Cassanes to [illegible] Chachapoa six days after his arrest.

They claimed the student was the one who approached them last year and told them how to fix their grades.

"We gave the money to the student in three deposits because we are already graduating students and we are in a hurry to graduate in pursuit of our dreams for better lives," they said in their affidavits.

The NBI-Baguio arrested Chachapoa on May 2 when he supposedly accepted marked money from the students in a hotel restaurant.

Chachapoa is supposedly behind the scam, in which the students said they could pay P5,000 "in exchange of a passing grade in any major nursing subject," and P3,000 "for a passing grade in any minor subject."

But the four said they were surprised about the student's involvement.

Chachapoa claimed he was framed by the student, according to his lawyer.

"(Chachapoa) admits discussing [illegible] with the student, but he said he never participated in the deal. He said it was the student who executed the plot to extort money from the students in exchange for good grades. If the deal was merely contemplated and not acted upon, it is not a crime," the lawyer said.

The Inquirer learned that Chachapoa's lawyer was also the counsel of the four complainants, who implicated the student in the scam this week.

"It was ... the student who convinced us that there is hope [illegible] we can still obtain passing grades, and that she will be able to convince our teachers to give us passing grades," the students said.

"She also told us to tell anybody else who is interested in passing their subjects (about her offer). Thus by word of mouth, it has been spread among our classmates. It was as if the whole school [illegible] that she possesses the power and influence to obtain a passing grade in any of the subjects a student is enrolled in," they said.

They claimed that they paid the student twice, the first time in December 2005, and the second this year "because the said her contacts were not satisfied with the money that we gave her."

They said that when they [illegible] but failed to get their transcripts, they sought out the student and demanded the return of their money.

"We were thus all surprised to learn that [illegible], a certain Chris Chachapoa Jr. was arrested for obtaining money from the student in exchange of passing grades. We never had any transaction with Chris Chachapoa Jr. as we made all our transactions with the student."

"It is for this reason that we would like to request the authorities to dismiss our complaint against Chris Chachapoa Jr.," they said.

Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

RISING COSTS

PNOC drops bid to build new geothermal plant

VALENCIA, NEGROS Oriental—The state-owned Philippine National Oil Co.-Energy Development Corp. (PNOC-EDC) has dropped plans of borrowing money to build another 20-megawatt geothermal plant in Barangay Nasuji, this town following the failure of a second bidding.

Paul Aquino, PNOC-EDC president, said reporters on Thursday that the bids submitted by suppliers were way above their allocated amounts because prices had gone up considerably since the time the budget was prepared.

Aquino said the cost of producing one megawatt of electricity used to be only P3 million. Now, he said, it costs about P50 million.

No borrowing

"The government will no longer borrow money and spend (for the power plant)," Aquino said. Instead, the PNOC-EDC has invited private companies to put up a plant and market the 20 mW of steam for 25 years.

"If a private party is willing to do that, the government has no business going into it," Aquino said.

He said several companies had already submitted letters of interest to build the power plant.

He said that the 20 mW from the Nasuji plant was already included in the Philippine Energy Plan, which aimed to boost the 40-45 mW expected production of the Southern Negros Geothermal Project in [illegible] City by February next year.

The Palinpinon plant of the PNOC-EDC supplies steam to the National Power Corp., which gives nearly 200 mW of electricity to consumers in the islands of Negros, Panay and Cebu. Alex V. Pal, PDI Visayas

Con-ass bid could mean Senate days numbered

Shifts in allegiance

Unfinished business

Sordid record

Back to unicameral?

The Daily Gospel

2 chambers of Congress seen to clash on priorities

Government paralysis

Senate caucus

2 options

Leadership shake-up

Skin whiteners ...

Dangerous trend

Cheap but risky

Tragedy of Cultural Revolution recalled

[illegible]

Red Guards

[illegible]

Mao's cult

[illegible]

End comes

[illegible]

Scars of revolution

[illegible]

AFP

93rd leftist leader killed

Bloody trail

Military hand

Grand conspiracy

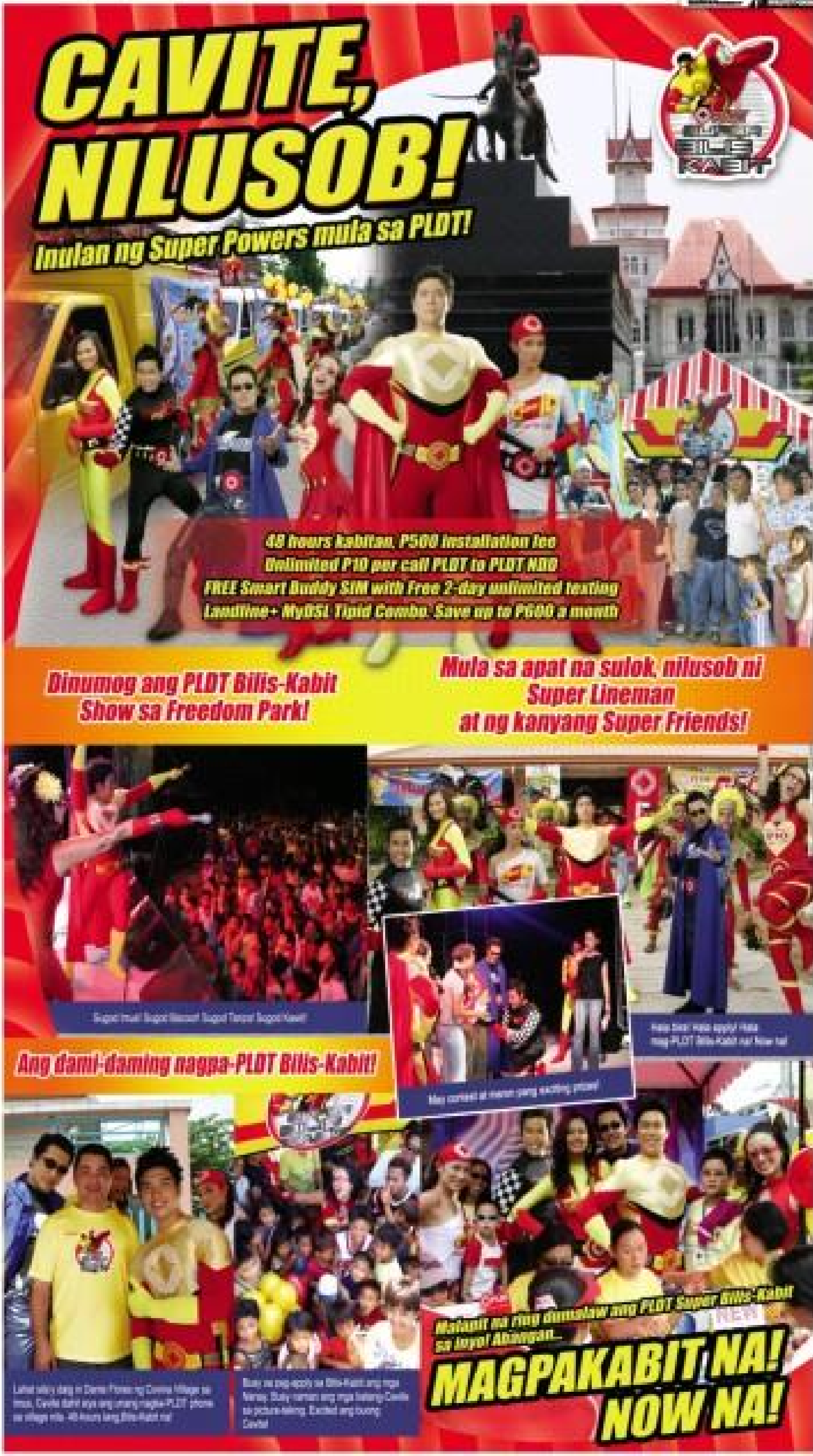
Bogus probe

'Baseless accusation'

Young pianist impresses Licad …

Ungodly hour to play

Correct version



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Inulan ng Super Powers mula sa PLDT!
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Ang dami-daming nagpa-PLDT Bilis-Kabit!
Malapit na ring dumalaw ang PLDT Super Bilis-Kabit sa inyo! Abangan...
MAGPAKABIT NA! NOW NA!

A plus METRO

Missing coed's body found in Cavite creek

St. Scho freshman would have turned 18 this week

CAMP VICENTE LIM, LAGUNA—Two days after she was reported missing, the body of a student of St. Scholastica's College in Manila was found floating in a creek in Bacoor, Cavite, last Friday.

Half-naked body

Disbelief

Rosales seeks Noli's help

Poor facilities



MOM'S DAY



‘Not for private use’



RECOVERED STOLEN CAR





RISKY BUSINESS
A man on a bike braves the rains and strong winds, with only a plastic sheet wrapped around his head for protection. Intermittent rains were felt in most parts of the country yesterday as "Caloy" continued to move across Luzon.

METROBRIEFS

Speed up road work in Manila

[illegible]

Girl Scouts national convention

[illegible]

Pirated software seized in Pasig

[illegible]

Two men convicted for selling shabu

[illegible]





4 arrested cops carrying 'tawas'

By Luige A. del Puerto

THE "DRUGS" ALLEGEDLY SEIZED from four Manila Police District policemen who were arrested last week turned out to be a crystalline substance used as a deodorant, the police said.

[illegible]

Robbery raps

[illegible]

Intimidation

[illegible]

Irregularities

[illegible]



CLEANUP
A worker at the La Mesa Dam Ecopark tries to clear a pond of water lilies to prevent them from clogging up the body of water.

Pasig gov't probes firm's operations

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

[illegible]

Three minutes

[illegible]

Makati vertical marathon set

By Tara V. Quismundo

A RACE TO THE TOP

[illegible]

China installs controversial new Catholic bishop


ZHAN

NINGDE, CHINA—China installed a controversial new Catholic bishop on Sunday in a ceremony reflecting the split between the Vatican and the Chinese state-run church that divides villagers in this heavily Catholic corner of the country.

Zhan Silu presided over a Mass marking his appointment as bishop of Mindong Diocese in eastern China's Fujian province.

The cathedral in the small city of Ningde was crowded to overflowing with a mix of urban residents and farmers in frayed clothes, welcoming his formal elevation after years as second-string to an ailing bishop who died last year.

But like two other Chinese bishops appointed in past weeks, Zhan lacks the blessing of Pope Benedict, who sharply criticized China for the moves.

Priests in both the state-approved church and the "underground" church around Ningde told Reuters they were upset by Zhan's elevation, warning it may stoke tensions between Beijing and the Vatican, and between the two sides of China's divided church.

"We've been under heavy pressure to attend," said a local priest in the state-recognized church, who nonetheless believed the Vatican should choose bishops. He asked his name not be used.

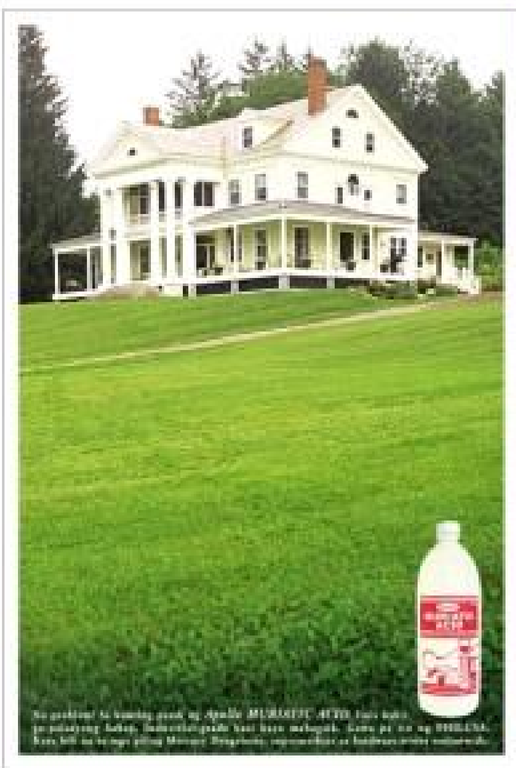
China has some 10 million Catholics, but they are split between an "underground" church loyal to the Holy See alone, and a state-approved church, whose members respect the Pope but lack formal ties to the Vatican.

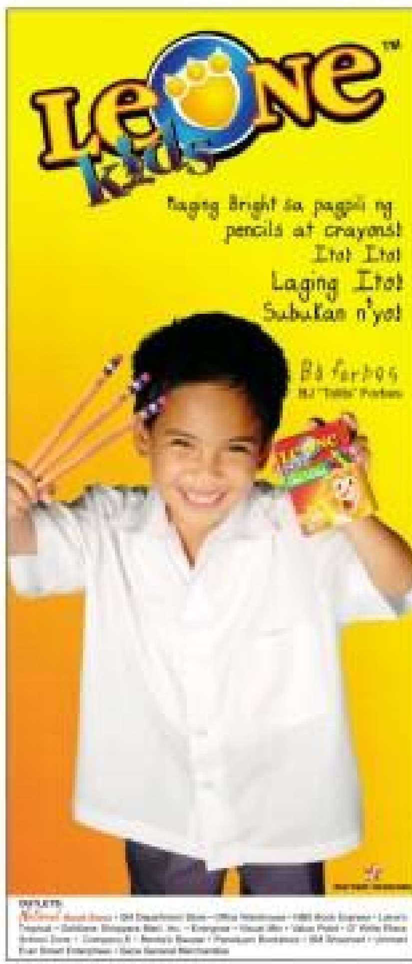
Zhan told Reuters that the underground church had boycotted the Mass, despite his invitation for representatives to attend.

Members of the state-approved church offered mixed views about the dispute between the Vatican and Beijing over who controlled bishops. Some said they did not understand the issue, others said they hoped Zhan would ultimately get papal approval. *Reuters*











Bird flu largely curbed in Asia where it hit first

NYT

WorldBriefs

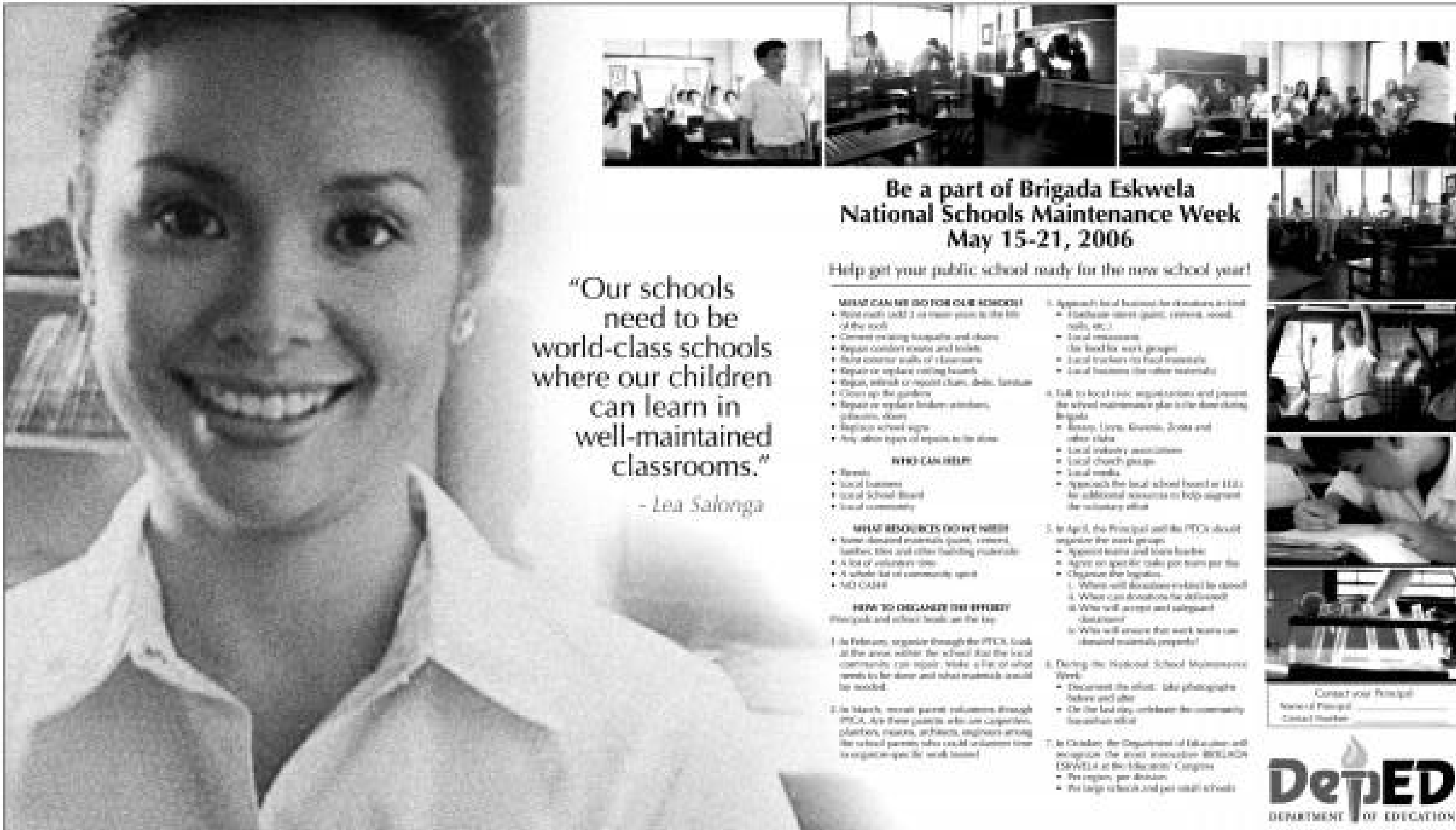
10 dead as Brazil gang attack cops

Pope attacks gay marriage anew



Thousands flee Indonesia volcano

Nigeria police begin probe of pipeline blast


Be a part of Brigada Eskwela
National Schools Maintenance Week
May 15-21, 2006
Help get your public school ready for the new school year!
"Our schools need to be world-class schools where our children can learn in well-maintained classrooms."
- Lea Salonga
Contact your Principal
DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The WORLD

CIA nominee designed spying on US public

WASHINGTON—IN THE WEEKS AFTER THE Sept. 11 attacks, Vice President Dick Cheney and his top legal adviser argued that the National Security Agency should intercept purely domestic telephone calls and e-mail messages without warrants in the hunt for terrorists, according to two senior intelligence officials.



HAYDEN

Bush moves to quell firestorm over phone trolling

Cheney notes referred to Plume, says prosecutor

SPORTS



Aces settle down to nip Realtors

Red Bull derails Purefoods' semis bid; Tejada severely hurt in freak accident

THE ALASKA ACES GOT TOO COMFORTABLE quite early.



Barnachea wrests lead; Feliciano rules 'killer' stage






Delo
"12 years ko nang gamit ang Delo
at walang palya ang delivery...
tumitigil lang para bumili ng
pasalubong kay misis."
Roger Tamayo
Truck Owner/ Driver
Pandacan, Manila
Delo Gold
IKAW AT DELO. 'DI SUSUKO.

Tortillos sink Harbour crew; Wizards prevail

Hot Real Spicy captures Silver Cup pulling away

40 fights in NCA 5-cocker at Roligon tomorrow

SPORTSWATCH

SJC cockfest gets going

Bacolor Gold derby today



Nowitzki delivers for Mavs in thriller

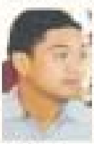


DALLAS—TIM DUNCAN GOT THE SAN ANTONIO SPURS in position to pull out a victory

James' triple-do

SPORTS TOURISM

World's top water skiiers coming for Cam Sur rite



VILLAFUERTE

RP duathlon ace a future triathlon star

Alberto bags nat'l aeromodeler title; Neri rules Masters



Barnachea wrests

STAGE 3 RESULTS

ouble derails Pistons run



Nadal, Federer forge Rome clash



SHAKEY'S V LEAGUE

PCU, FEU tossers dispute semis slot

MercedesTrophy RP debut up at S. Elena today

lead; Feliciano ...



A-Rod powers Yankees

Cheating in Palaro: Protest and appeal

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad



Pahati shoots for top Asian X-Games finish

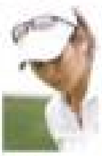
Softball head Angping at PSA Forum

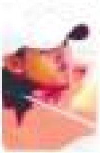
Amonsot bucks knockdown, decisions Puerto Rican

Bacchus/Harbour dribblers stop Ozamiz Cotta

Tourney of Champs under way at Eagle

By Jong Arcano





RODRIGUEZ



Unbeaten Jewelers take on Warriors as MVBA's finals begin

Befuddled

CLEAN LIVING

SPORTS

Baguio battleground for junior net tour





FORD SHOOTOUT

Grand Finals cast of teams complete

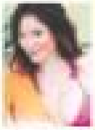




ENTERTAINMENT

Inside





How Nikki mends her broken heart



H'wood's best autograph signers

CHEEK FACTOR



JOHNNY Depp





Triumph for 3

Happiest day

Dream come true



Chris Daughtry isn't happy he's out, and it shows

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE



Reality challenge for thinking viewers

VIEWFINDER



"Captain Tsubasa"

Backroom artists

Christian audiobooks



Still crime and math in 'Numb3rs' season 2

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

'We try to teach a couple of mathematical theories in every episode... bring some new thinking about math, some new thinking about logic. We're lucky that viewers seem to dig it'



ROB Morrow



DAVID Krumholtz



NICK Falacci and Cheryl Heuton

Silver: The Songs of Vehn

SHOW TIME



Lani at Ayala Malls

Village People & Sister Sledge

Today

Tomorrow

May 17

May 18

May 19

May 20

ee Saturno





May 21

May 22

May 23

May 24

May 26

May 27

May 30



May 31

June 2

June 9

June 23

June 30



Roundup

P1.2M up for grabs

[illegible]



JOBERT Sucaldito, Amy Perez, Karen Davila and Sen. Manny Villar

'Jobs for Life'

[illegible]

MTV-Pan pact

[illegible]



X-MEN Jean Grey and Wolverine

X-Men at Robinsons

[illegible]



THE ONE-hour special "TARANTULA, Australia's King of Spiders" premieres May 28, 9 p.m., and encores May 29, 11 p.m.

And now, the news from Animal Planet

Black Bear grows up

[illegible]

"Five Owl Farm"

[illegible]

185 million subscribers—human

[illegible]



FROM "Black Bear Grows Up"

How Nikki . . .

From page A1-1

'I've known Geoff Eigenmann since high school. We like to hang out together'

[illegible]



CAMERON Diaz

H'wood's best . . .

From page A1-1

[illegible]

FEEDBACK

Explain, please

From [illegible]

Most "Pinoy Big Brother" viewers here in Zamboanga City were shocked when Kiko was ousted despite having gotten the highest percentage of viewer votes.

We smell something fishy. Either the result was manipulated, or there were lapses during the counting of votes. Viewers exert effort and spend time and money to participate in the show, so the management of ABS-CBN owes us an explanation.

Not Groban's

From [illegible]

[illegible] stated in her article that Harry Santos sang "[illegible]" by Josh Groban. I watched the "Pinoy Pop Superstar" grand finals and Harry Santos sang "To Where You Are" by Josh Groban. As a Josh Groban fan, neither have I encountered any song of such title in any of his albums. Thanks and more power.

Why, oh why?

From [illegible]

Filipinos would love "Da Vinci Code" because it is a great movie. Why do we even think of banning such a movie whose sole purpose is to entertain?

If religion is the main reason, the church would be blamed more if they ban it—just like what happened in the case of "The Last Temptation of Christ" and "The Priest."

I believe movies like these spur more imagination and encourage Filipinos to search for the truth, and just accept the way things are today.

C'mon, we have a daily dose of bad programs on television everyday like entertainment talk shows and the 6 o'clock news.

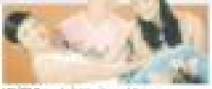
I love 'Idol'

From [illegible]

I just love "American Idol." I have a planned vacation coming up and I do not want to miss the last show, so whatever it takes, I will work my vacation around the show. What is the date for the final show of the season? Thanks.

(The final show is on May 24 in the US, which is May 25 in the Philippines.)

RUSHES



JOYCE Bernal with Lucky and Anne

Direk's desire

[illegible]

New jokes from our Inbox

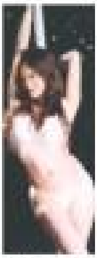
[illegible]

Rating 'Da Vinci'

[illegible]

'Rounin' in the running

[illegible]



GWEN Garci

Second choice

[illegible]

Horsing around

[illegible]

How-to video

[illegible]



MABEL Rodriguez

Her very own

[illegible]

Spicy vegan

[illegible]

BUSINESS

OFW remittances hit 8-year high

March record brings 1st quarter inflows to $2.8B

DOLLARS AND OTHER FOREIGN CURRENCIES SENT BY overseas Filipino workers through the banking system surged to an eight-year high of $1.03 billion in March, 15.6 percent better than the inflows a year ago, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said.

CURRENCIES





Profit-taking seen to continue

Bill seeks to grant tax perks only to exporters

WHAT'S INSIDE

SMC accounting seizures

Court OKs rehab of Platinum Plans

Gov't to shell out $4.1B to repay foreign debts this year

SMC accounting seizures

Cocktales

Victor C. Agustin

[illegible]

Pfizer's finances

[illegible]

Money-go-round

[illegible]

Heard through the grapevine

[illegible]

Profit-taking . . .

From page B1

[illegible]







Loans extended by commercial banks down

Favorable interest rates, improved business sentiment seen to boost demand



By Doris C. Dumlao



SM Prime seeks end to tax row in Clark



CalPERS stocks in RP up



BUSINESS

When secrecy goes too far

No Free Lunch



Cielito F. Habito

LGU constraints

Secretive BIR

Makati windfall

Piercing the veil

Globe to save ₱2.5B from 3G tax perks

Court okays rehab of Platinum Plans

SMC unit allots P2B for expansion

In face of fiercer rivalry, Metrobank out to keep top spot

In US, RP mangoes gaining ground

Batasan 5: Where's the mass base?

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES



Horacio C. General

BIR clarifies VAT status of airlines, shipping firms

By Michelle V. Remo

Exporters want tariffs on banana chips lowered

Firms blame 167% increase in tariffs in China for volume slowdown

ARMM to allow tax-free oil imports in ecozone to bring in investments

Firm to invest in coal project

LBP in talks with lenders for $500M in soft loans

Long-term funds to enable bank to offer lower interest rates

GOINGS-ON

STI to host 11th ICT congress

Chinatrust meets standards

UCPB taps TIM

LRT, MRT report increasing ridership



SM Prime...

First Gen expanding generation capacity

PREPARATIONS FOR 12TH ASEAN SUMMIT

Mandaue City undergoes urban facelift

Jica funding

New growth center



DUNKO



AN ARTIST'S perspective of the Cebu International Convention Center, which is scheduled for completion in October.

US roadshows for property sector launched

Teves urges UK to invest in RP BOT projects

London mayor asked to encourage British companies

By Michelle V. Remo

[illegible]

Sun Cellular seeks partner in Malaysia, report says

[illegible]

Gov't not using enough coco-diesel, group says

[illegible]



Bausch & Lomb shares nosedive as US confirms 16 more cases of infection

US inflation turns from bad to worse with falling dollar

OFW . . .

Bill seeks . . .

IPVG, iGames eye RP market. . .

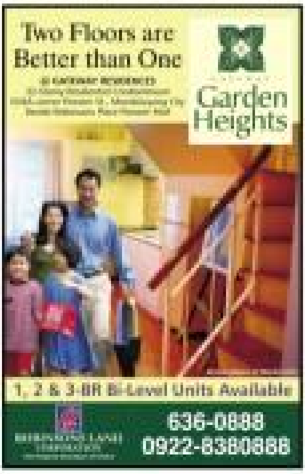
RP remains an Internet dial-up market: PLDT



Tech Support and Maintenance for SMBs: Prevention and Cure

More 3G devices out in the market: survey

IPVG, iGames eye RP market for PC games







IPVG's RAN Online is now one of the most popular online games in the country.

IPv6 Enables Technology for Next Generation Solutions

"Technology is an imperative for progress. The more technology we use, the more competitive and productive we are as a nation."







MUSEUM Foundation to stage Cayabyab's opera 'Spoliarium' /C4

LIFESTYLE
Editor: Chelo Banal-Formoso

Theater for a better world

By Gibbs Cadiz

A GLOBAL THEATER coup of sorts happens in Manila this month, when the city hosts two simultaneous international events related to the performing arts: the 31st Unesco-International Theater Institute (ITI) Congress on May 23-27, and the World Festival of Drama Schools on May 18-30.

Cecile Guidote-Alvarez, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) executive director, is at the forefront of preparations for the huge event.

"This will be a defining moment not only for the Philippines but for the global community of artists and workers," she says.

Alvarez is the only Filipino member in the executive committee of the ITI Congress, a global event established in 1948 and held every two years that aims to harness arts and culture as tools for human development and social progress.

Manila becomes the world's stage this month as it hosts the 31st Unesco-International Theater Institute Congress and the World Festival of Drama Schools



STUDENTS from the Shanghai Theater Academy, dressed up as monkeys for a performance

Ancestral roots

The last ITI Congress was in Tampico, Mexico, in 2004. This year, the theme of the conference is "Ancestral Roots to New Artistic Routes of Expression: Mobilizing Cultural Diversity to Achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals."

Quite a mouthful, but Alvarez says it all comes down to going back to one's heritage, learning from the past, to make the present more meaningful and responsive.

"Mobilizing to link our new artistic works to the richness of our ancestral heritage," she says. "Our creations then become distinctive, varied, modern but truly Filipino. It's also a way for us to see that we share the same common historical experience. Our Asin dances, for instance, are very much like those of Sierra Leone tribes. So it all becomes an affirmation of humanity."

About 500 participants from 100 countries—including, yes, Sierra Leone—are expected to attend the fourfold event, among them theater performers, directors, drama pedagogues, students and other cultural workers.

Unesco (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) director general Koichiro Matsuura himself will preside over the Leaders' Forum of the Congress.

A series of simultaneous live performances, seminars and workshops will take place at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila Hotel, WOW Philippines Intramuros and selected venues in 11 designated cities in the provinces.

For the World Festival of Drama Schools, the highlight involves 10 drama institutions from various countries fanning out all over the Philippines to workshop, interact and share experiences with local theater troupes and school-based groups.

Called "Theater for All," the program will see the National School for Dramatic Arts in Lima, Peru, visiting Vigan City; the National Drama School of New Delhi, India, reaching base in Baguio City; the Department of Drama of the University of Cape Town, South Africa, in Santiago City, Isabela; the Center for Training and Research in Live Performing Arts of Burkina Faso in Marikina City, Marinduque; the Theater Academy of Shanghai, China, in Legaspi City, Albay.

Iloilo City will host the Kasparsko Gary Kyiv National University

TURN TO C4



UNESCO director general Koichiro Matsuura with National Commission for Culture and the Arts executive director Cecile Guidote-Alvarez and International Theater Institute (ITI) executive director and acting secretary general Jennifer Walpole, in an earlier ITI conference in Paris

May events at Pundaquit Festival





PHILIPPINE Children's Choir from Mandaluyong

Theater for a better world



Pocket performances



UST grants honorary doctorate to Unesco head



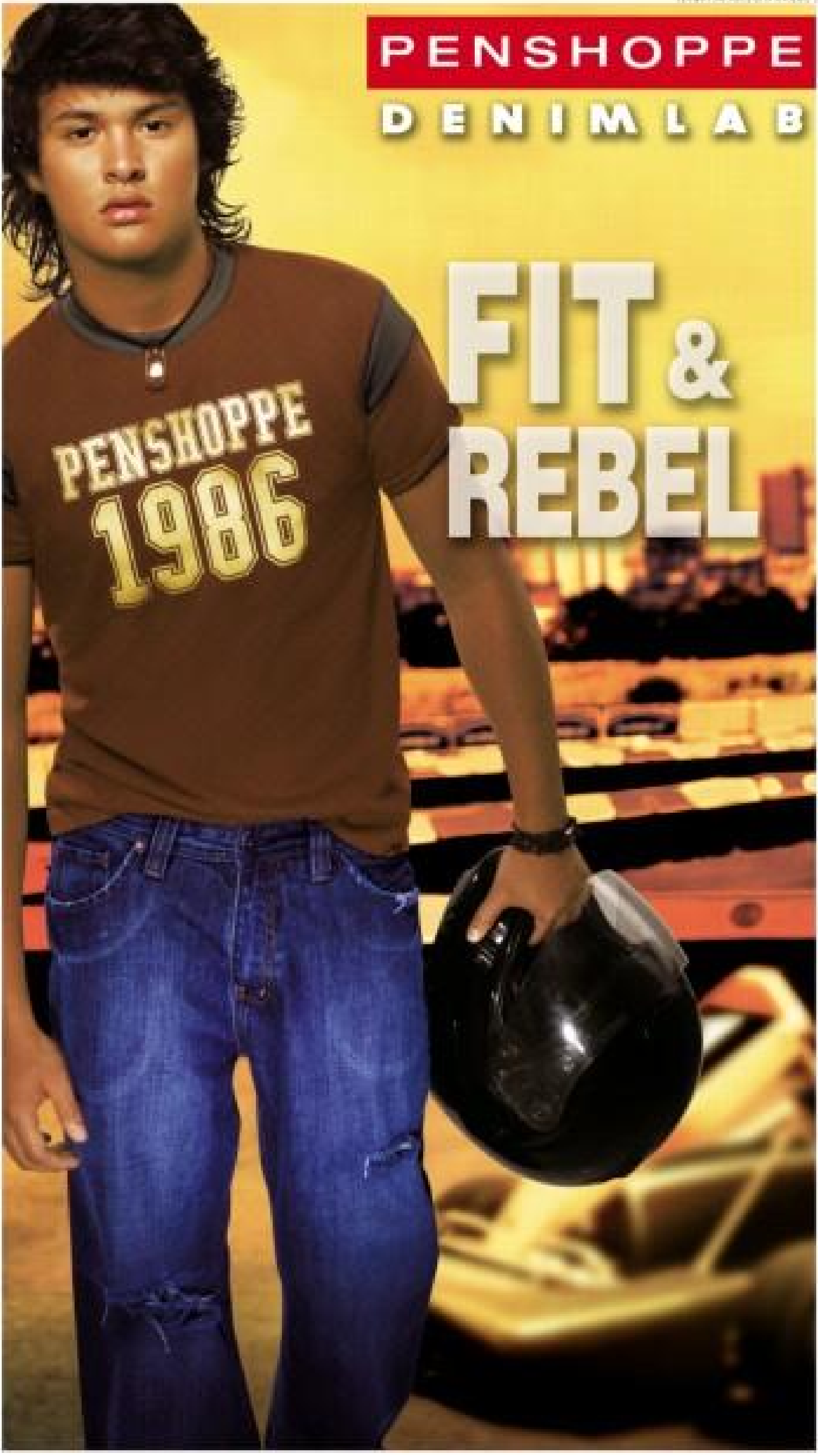
UNESCO director general Koichiro Matsuura

'Welcome to IntelStar' conquers Cebu



31st Unesco-International Theater Institute Congress and the World Festival of Drama Schools

Highlights:


PENSHOPPE
DENIMLAB
FIT & REBEL
PENSHOPPE
1986



TATA Protacio



FIDES Cuyugan-Asensio

What better way to celebrate the National Heritage Month than with the staging of an opera that bears the title of Juan Luna's masterpiece, housed in the National Museum itself?



JUAN Luna's "Spoliarium"



RYAN Cayabyab

Museum Foundation mounts Ryan Cayabyab's 'Spoliarium'

By Antonio C. Hila
Contributor

"SPOLIARIUM: JUAN Luna," a full-length opera in English composed by Ryan Cayabyab with libretto by Fides Cuyugan-Asensio, will be staged at the National Museum's new FCCP-Abiano Hall on June 3 at 7:30 p.m., with cocktails hosted by Via Mare at 6 p.m.

The Museum Foundation of the Philippines (MFP) sponsors the presentation as a fund drive for the benefit of the National Museum. The staging of the opera fittingly caps the celebration of the month-long National Heritage Month.

"Indeed, what better way to celebrate the National Heritage Month than with the staging of an opera that bears the title of Juan Luna's masterpiece that is housed in the National Museum itself," said Tata Protacio in a press launch at Odette Alcantara's residence recently. Tata is the founding president of the Museum Foundation of the Philippines and was its president for 10 years.

The opera is inspired by Luna's life. The collaborative effort of composer Cayabyab and librettist Cuyugan-Asensio brings to life a soaring drama that is similarly evoked by Luna's "Spoliarium," a compelling depiction of gross inhumanity signified by the gladiator fight for freedom.

Luna's painting won the Gold Medal in 1884 at the Exposicion Nacional de Bellas Artes in Madrid, Spain. Luna's contemporary, Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo's "Virgenes Cristianas expuestas al populacho," on the other hand, bagged the Silver Medal. Their winnings were a big boost to the Filipino expatriates' campaign for equality in Spain.

Tata spearheaded the return of the Senate and Congress Building to its rightful owner, the National Museum of the Philippines, 10 years ago. The effort resulted in the passage of the National Museum Act and an Executive Order turning the Departments of Finance and Tourism Buildings as part of the National Museum Complex.

Today, she has organized her eight-time move to raise funds for the restoration program of the National Gallery of Art. It seeks to draw attention to the restoration work being done on the paintings of Juan Luna and Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo at the National Museum, as well as the refurbishing of the FCCP-Abiano Hall, which promises not only to serve as Manila's newest venue for the display of the museum's collection, but also as venue for more fund drives in the future.

As Tata explained it, maintaining a painting—say "Pinkahelia," another Luna painting—needs an allocation of a quarter of a million pesos a year (P250,000). The fund drive is an initial project in a wider effort to raise around P8 million, which is the amount needed to finish the National Gallery of Art and ongoing restoration works, and to renovate more halls in addition to the recently done FCCP-Abiano Hall that will be the venue of the inaugural opera presentation.

Odette Alcantara who hosted the launch expressed staunch support to the project. Championing the cause of environmental concerns, she said there can never be cultural conservation without environmental conservation, stressing the mutuality of the two relevant concerns. She informed the audience that it was in Odette's house where brainstorming was done a decade ago for the project of reclaiming the National Museum Building.

Excerpts from the opera were intensely sung with taped accompaniment by some members of the cast, which include Allan Bale Alajopun in the title role; Ana Feleo (Paz Pardo de Tavera); Fides Cuyugan-Asensio (Doña Juliana de Gorricho); Leslie Fox (Trinidad Pardo de Tavera); and Fred Naguio (Calling, Luna's son). Completing the cast are Luigi Nacario (Felix Pardo de Tavera), Greg de Leon (Don Antonio Rigoder), Nazer Salcedo (Jose Rizal), and Alexis Tolledo (Giovanni Valponi).

"Spoliarium" had its world premiere at the CCP in February 2003 and bagged Aliw's "Best Musical Award" in 2004.

Helping MFP are the Friends for Cultural Concerns of the Philippines; Filipino Heritage Festival; National Commission for Culture and the Arts; and the Department of Tourism.

Only 300 tickets priced at P3,000 and P2,500 are available due to the venue's limited seating capacity. Guests are enjoined to come in semiformal attire or Filipiniana. Call MFP at 8120771 and ask for Andrie Buñaga or Elvie Magpayo; Mindie Arcanela at 4842445.



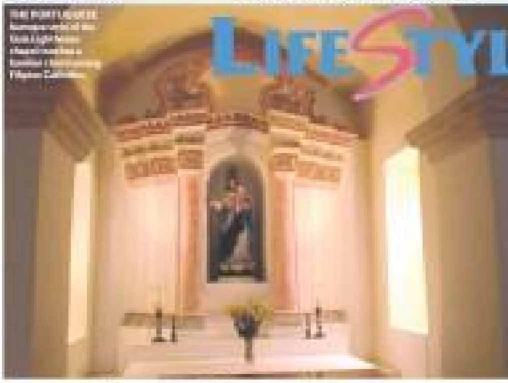




ALLAN Dale Alajopun in the title role



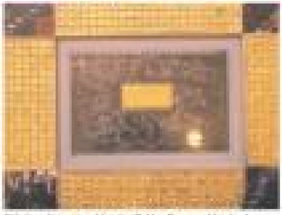
ANA Feleo as Paz Pardo de Tavera



LifeStyle



The former Portuguese territory offers multi-textural realities



The call of Macau

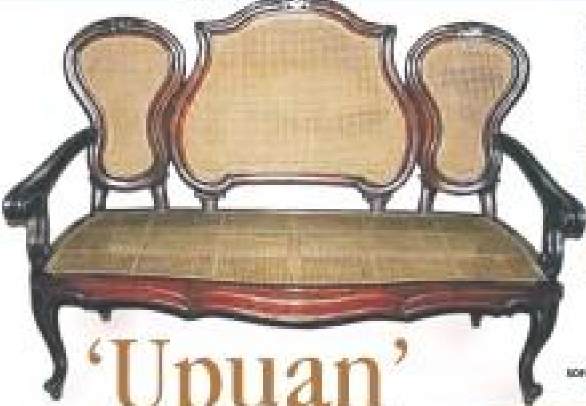
Pride of Place

Augusto F. Villalon





BUTACA lounging chair with adjustable armrest





SIDE chair

SOFA

'Upuan' at Metropolitan Museum



CHIPPENDALE side chair



SETTEE



BENTWOOD a rocker



ROCKING chair



DIVAN

Arts and crafts shops call . . .

'Komedya' reigns in Antique

An old literary dramatic art form still thrives on Panay island



THE KOMEDYA



KOMEDYA scene from the Binirayan festival



The call of Macau











Samar beyond the typhoons



Mind-over-matter art

By Gina Dominado
Contributor

THE MARKEDLY SPIRITUAL character inscribed on the order of paintings and sculptures shows the ambidextrous nature of their creator, a reverend New Age disciple whose deep-seated spirituality tries to enforce mind over matter. [illegible]



"COSMIC Dance"





New show

[illegible]



FLORENCE Cinco

E-mail author at [illegible]

Various artists at 'La Musique'

IN CELEBRATION OF National Heritage Month, Galerie Joaquin presents 48 paintings in the show "La Musique IV" from senior artists such as National Artist Arturo Luz, Sanso, Lydia Velasco and Mario Parial, as well as contemporary artists Manny Garibay, Bernard Vista, Dominic Rubio, Jerry Morada, Bayani Ray Acala, Vincent de Pio, Edwin Tres Reyes and members of the Guerrero Group of Artists.

[illegible]



"THREE Musicians," by Mario Parial



"ENSEMBLE," by Bernard Vista



"MUSIKA," by Jerry Morada

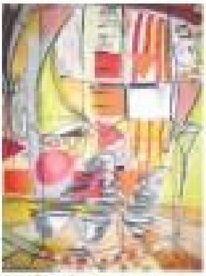


"PERFORMANCE," by Vincent de Pio

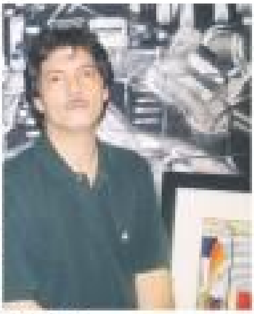
[illegible]

'Room Series' at Milky Way

MANUEL PADILLA'S "ROOM Series," [illegible]



"LALAI'S Room"



MANUEL Padilla



"IN THE MARKET Place," by Anita Magsaysay-Ho

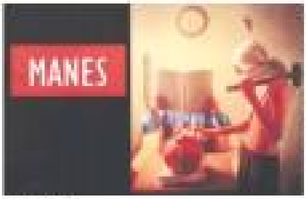
Lopez Museum exhibit tackles femme mystique

PLAYING ON THE IDEA THAT women continue to be associated with [illegible]



ARTWORK by Bencab

VISUAL ARTS



Manes at West



BOTTLE art by Elmo Manes

Manes at Avellana



"OFFICE Desk, Hay Altar & T.," by Elmo Manes

Manes at Finale



Tapaya at Boston

Jeonina at Power Plant Mall



Boriosa at Mirework



Free kiddie art workshops

Workshops by Art Informal

Fund-raising show

Creative process at MagNet

Picasso at Crucible



Chiqa Cruz at Hues



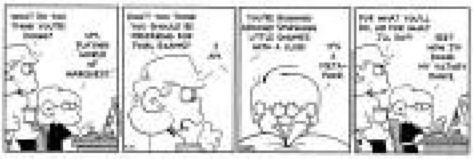
Layson at Hiraya



Dabulo at CCP



FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND



A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA



MARVIN BY TOM ARMSTRONG



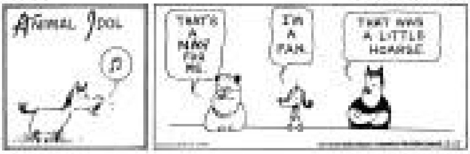
PUGAD BABOY



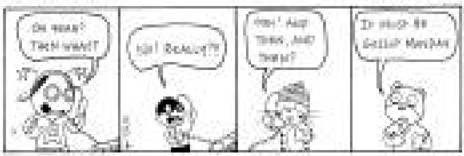
BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT



MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL



ATOMO AND WEBBY



DIVINE COMEDY

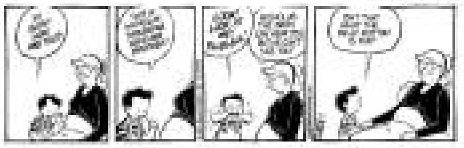




HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA



DAILY CROSSWORD

LOVENOTES





Metaphysical painting and Conceptual painting

By Constantino C. Tejero



"LEARN to Float," by Sandra Fabie-Ghiller



ARTISTS-RUN Independent Art Space has launched the novel idea of a one-work, one-artist exhibition.

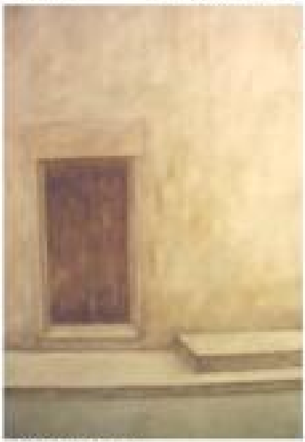
Hidden meanings



SANDRA Fabie-Ghiller

Fresh treatment

Value of space



"UNTITLED," by Erwin Leaño



Arts-and-crafts shops call for fair trade

A SALA SET OF OLD MOLAVE or kamagong with matching handmade paper lampshade graces your living room.

LIFESTYLE

Take that, Dan Brown

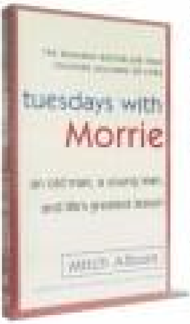


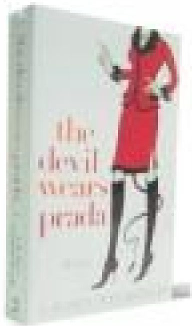
A Filipino Dominican appointed by John Paul II to the Pontifical Biblical Commission points out the errors of the 'Da Vinci Code'

Brevity, clarity, scholarship

Impossible

Meet new characters through book club





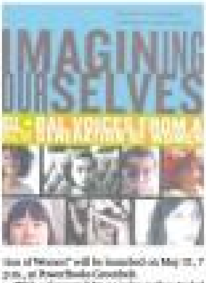
Take that, Dan Brown

Southbridge to open writing center

PAREF SOUTHBRIDGE will soon launch the country's first creative writing center for elementary and high-school students.

Women of the new generation speak out in new book

WHAT DEFINES YOUR GENERATION of women? A few years ago, a PhD candidate at Harvard named Paola Goldman e-mailed this question to women aged 20-40 around the globe.





iPod prizes from NBS-McGraw Hill



Show-biz wedding exclusive

DID YOU KNOW THAT the blinding pair of three-... Barretto wore to her wedding had a total of 17 carats? Did you know that apart from the platinum band wedding ring from Tiffany&Co., the bride didn't remove her 5.03 karat engagement ring all throughout the ceremony and reception?

Spotlight on author Steve Berry

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR STEVE Berry is in the spotlight this May at PowerBooks. He lives on the Georgia coast in Camden County. He's been a practicing lawyer for 25 years and has helped people both in and out of the courtroom. He's also active in local politics, having served on the Camden County Board of Education and, currently is one of five members of the Camden County Board of Commissioners.


STEVE Berry

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SUMMER SPORTS 2006

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TAEKWONDO

WUSHU

FOOTBALL

KARATE by AAK

SPORTS CENTRAL

JVC
The Perfect Experience

SPORT SCHEDULES

BADMINTON

BASKETBALL CLINICS

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

TAEKWONDO

WUSHU

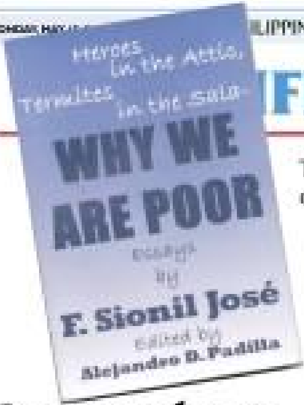
FOOTBALL

AAK SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAM

DEMONSTRATION & COMPETITION

TOBY'S MAD RANGE SHOOTOUT 3

OTHER ACTIVITIES



The National Artist for Literature comes out with a collection of trenchant essays dissecting the Filipino malaise

Outspoken essays from a blunt pen

IN "HEROES IN THE ATTIC, TERMITES IN THE Sala: Why We Are Poor: Essays by F. Sionil José" (Solidaridad Publishing House, 2005, 349 pages; available at Solidaridad Bookshop in Ermita, Manila, and major bookstores nationwide), editor Alejandro Padilla describes the new book of essays by the National Artist for Literature as tackling "a variety of subjects ranging from national problems... to national concerns... and deadly issues." There are also topics such as food, literary creations and craftsmanship, and architecture, "not to mention his travel accounts and reminiscences."

Unique writeshop on children's literature

By Wilson Lee G. Tolan
Contributor

THE FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY (FEU) held its First Tamaraw National Writeshop on Children's Literature April 5-11 in Baguio City.

[illegible]









'New' national writers workshop raises the bar

By Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo
Contributor

[illegible]







Download

[illegible]

Fine wine and banter

[illegible]





THE DARK [illegible]





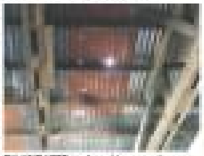
THE WINDOWS [illegible]

ST. BATHOLOMEW Academy's [illegible]

School in Babuyan islands needs help

FOR OVER 48 YEARS NOW, the Dominican friars of the Philippines administer a high school on the remote island of Calayan, which is among the Babuyan group on the northern coast of Luzon.

[illegible]



DILAPIDATED [illegible]



SCHOOL [illegible]

Naguib Mahfouz, Nobel laureate



Rebate promo



Outspoken essays...

